GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:631
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
BUMPER CROP OF POTATO
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been bumper crop of potato in the country this year;

(b) if so, whether the potato growers are facing financial difficulties due to non- announcement of remunerative price of potato; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.631 TO BE ANSWERED ON TH 10th May, 2000 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Remunerative price of potato is not announced by Government. However, Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is being implemented for horticulture crops including potato on specific requests of State Government. The Scheme envisages the procurement of the determined quantity of produce at an agreed price for a specific period to arrest downward trend of price and assure remunerative prices to the farmers. Losses if any are shared on 50:50 basis between Central and State Governments. NAFED is the central nodal agency forprocurement under MIS scheme. So far only West Bengal has sent proposal for implementation of the scheme which has been referred back to the State for meeting certain deficiencies.